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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:
HSRW-6J

April 21, 1992

Mr. Gene Hall
MDNR
Box 30028
Lansing, MI 48909

RE: Albion-Sheridan Township Landfill Site
Albion, Michigan

Dear Gene,

This letter presents some of the major issues concerning the RI/FS which you, Bob Delaney (MDNR geologist) and I discussed at our meeting in Lansing on April 14, as well as the resolution of these issues at my meeting with the contractor, WW Engineering & Science, on April 15. The two issues which were left unresolved on April 14 concerned the approach to the geophysical survey and vertical groundwater sampling. This letter basically reiterates the telephone conversation we had on Friday, April 17.

The questions concerning the geophysical survey were the distance between traverse lines and the type of equipment proposed in the draft RI/FS Work Plan. WW Engineering & Science recommended using 50 foot traverse line spacing on the landfill using a EM-31 Terrain Conductivity Meter. Bob Delaney suggested using a 20 foot line spacing and using a magnetometer in addition to the EM survey to confirm locations of drums. I discussed these suggestions with WW, and I decided to follow the approach originally presented in the Work Plan. The objectives of the geophysical survey are to define the edges of the fill material, to screen for the presence of a conductive groundwater plume, to determine where appropriate drilling locations might be based on the lack of metallic debris, and to try to approximate relative depths of fill material. WW believes that the methods and instruments they have proposed are appropriate to achieve these goals.

While not a primary objective, the survey will also identify locations of concentrated metal debris which may represent clusters of drums. If such discrete locations are found and if further investigation appears warranted, additional traverse lines at closer spacing can be run to better define the area, and a magnetometer can be available for this work. Given the fact that landfills tend to be full of metal debris of all types and the information from the former landfill operator concerning drum

disposal (it appears that he often dumped out the contents and the drums were re-used, sold or crushed), I believe that we may not find discrete areas of concentrated metal and that a 50 foot line spacing is appropriate as an initial screening tool.

The other issue concerned vertical sampling of the groundwater during monitoring well installation. During our April 14 meeting, Bob Delaney expressed his opinion that vertical sampling was imperative. Based on our discussion, it was my understanding that only the downgradient wells would need to be vertically sampled and that it would probably be sufficient to vertically sample only the first three downgradient wells installed. These three wells would be set in the bedrock, but during their installation the upper (glacial) aquifer would be vertically sampled at five foot intervals to help determine potential depths of groundwater plumes. This information combined with downhole geophysical logging of the bedrock wells will help to optimize screen placement and determine the number of wells necessary per location in the glacial aquifer. An on-site field GC will be used during vertical sampling.

Please let me know if I have inadvertently misrepresented MDNR's position on these issues or if there is something you wish to discuss further. I think our meeting on April 14 was quite productive, and I look forward to working together and moving ahead on this project.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Novy

Mary Beth Novy
Remedial Project Manager

cc: Mary Pat Tyson